

**Amendment to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 1, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

This object is achieved by means of a catheter as disclosed in claim 1 which comprises:

- a catheter sleeve (2);
- a hollow guide channel or lumen (3) within the catheter sleeve (2) for receiving a medical instrument; and
- two electrical conductors (4) which are enclosed by a cable sheath (5) of a dielectric material and serve for the transmission of RF signals within the catheter sleeve (2), the dielectric material having a relative permittivity ( $\epsilon_r$ ) which is smaller than 4, the diameter of the electrical conductors (4) being between 5 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , notably between 10 and 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the distance between the electrical conductors (4) being smaller than 300  $\mu\text{m}$ , in particular smaller than 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

This object is achieved by means of a catheter which comprises a catheter sleeve, a hollow guide channel or lumen within the catheter sleeve for receiving a medical instrument, and two electrical conductors which are enclosed by a cable sheath of a dielectric material and serve for the transmission of RF signals within the catheter sleeve, the dielectric material having a relative permittivity ( $\epsilon_r$ ) which is smaller than 4, the diameter of the electrical conductors being between 5 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , notably between 10 and 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the distance between the electrical conductors being smaller than 300  $\mu\text{m}$ , in particular smaller than 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The object of the invention is also achieved by means of an MR device as claimed in claim 6 which includes:

- a main field magnet system (16) for generating a homogeneous, steady main magnetic field;
- a gradient coil system (17, 18, 19) for generating magnetic gradient fields;
- an RF coil system (14) for exciting an examination zone;
- a receiving coil system (14, 12) for receiving MR signals from the examination zone;
- a catheter (1) as claimed in claim 1 for introducing a medical instrument into the object (10) to be examined, notably comprising an active coil (4, 5) which is arranged on or in the catheter (1) for the purpose of catheter localization, local excitation of the examination zone and/or local reception of MR signals; and
- a control unit (23) for controlling the MR device.

The object of the invention is also achieved by means of an MR device which includes a main field magnet system for generating a homogeneous, steady main magnetic field, a gradient coil system for generating magnetic gradient fields, an RF coil system for exciting an examination zone, a receiving coil system for receiving MR signals from the examination zone, a catheter as claimed in claim 1 for introducing a medical instrument into the object to be examined, notably comprising an active coil which is arranged on or in the catheter for the purpose of catheter localization, local excitation of the examination zone and/or local reception of MR signals, and a control unit for controlling the MR device.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 31 as follows:

Fig. 1 is a cross-sectional view of a catheter 1 in accordance with the invention. It ~~consists of~~ includes a catheter sleeve 2 which consists, for example, of a flexible synthetic material. Inside the catheter sleeve 2 there is formed a guide channel (lumen) 3 wherethrough one or more medical instruments can be introduced into the object to be examined, for example, the body of a patient. Furthermore, inside the catheter sleeve 2 there is provided a cable sheath 5 in which two electrical conductors 4 extend substantially parallel to one another so that they are completely enclosed by the cable sheath 5. The cable sheath 5 consists of a dielectric material having a dielectric number (permittivity)  $\epsilon_r$  which is smaller than 4, preferably smaller than 2.3. The diameter of the electrical conductors 4 preferably is in the range of between 10 and 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , for example, 15  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the distance between the conductors 4 preferably is smaller than 200  $\mu\text{m}$ , for example, 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

After the last paragraph on page` 5, please add the following paragraph:

The invention has been described with reference to the preferred embodiments. Obviously, modifications and alterations will occur to others upon reading and understanding the preceding detailed description. It is intended that the invention be construed as including all such modifications and alterations insofar as they come within the scope of the appended claims or the equivalents thereof.